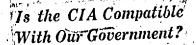
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CPYRGHT

HARTFORD, CONN. COURANT

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To the Editor of The Courant:

A sense of angry frustration is the prevailing American reaction to our involvement in the Dominican Republic. President Johnson's frustration is reported to have made him angry with his critics of the press and the community. academic critics are angry with him for having undermined overnight, in an impulsive decision to call out the Marines, all the patient efforts of a generation of statesmen to base our hemispheric policy on something other than the big stick.

Yet in blaming the President's obvious inexperience in foreign affairs, as compared to the maturity and sureness of his domestic leadership, we may be overlooking the real cause of our humiliation. We should remember that President Ken nedy, who confidently acted and was accepted as his own Secretary of State, brought u equal humiliation at the Bay o Pigs. If two Presidents as different as Johnson and Kenned make the same mistake, wh should look deeper than their limitations for an explanation.

In both cases we intervened militarily in a weak neighbor ing country, in violation of trea international obligations, law, and the morals we had long professed, against what we believed was Communist aggression. In Cuba the Communists were already in power, and the the danger we saw and our reaction to it were the same.

In both cases official explanations were a mixture of contradictions and falsehoods.

pasis of faulty intempence. The prevents it from accepting the Alfred M. Bingham



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Dominican Republic we be world. ieved that the rebellion was Wher

the Cuban fiasco since it not leadership, names furnished no only provided the faulty intellidoubt by the CIA, he sounded gence, but it planned and exe-like the ghost of the late Senaand execution.

all the ills of bureaucracy, dead, and four without any of the checks named twice." fighting men we sent in we're without any of the checks named twice."
not in American uniform, but the checks named twice."
Today in America, after the In both cases we acted on the wide Communist movement ernment?

welcome the invaders. In the rapid changes of the modern,

When President Johnson ancaptured by the Communists. nounced he had the names of The Central Intelligence Agen- 50-odd Communists and Castrocy has been rightly blamed for ites in the Dominican rebel cuted the action taken. There tor McCarthy. As Walter Lipp-seems no reason to doubt that mann said: The press saved: the CIA has again provided not only a false picture of the situation, but has again played a de-week reported: "A few of those cisive role in policy planning named were actually found to be fighting alongside the rebels, A secret intelligence agency is but not in command posts; sevby its very nature unreliable. eral were out of the country;
Operating in secret, it suffers others were in jail; some were

that public exposure forces on second great national humilia-other bureaucracies. The CIA tion in four years, the question is still fighting the battles of surely should be raised; Is twenty years ago. In fact its the CIA, as presently constitute whole structure and purpose — ed, an institution compatible to contain a monolithic world- with free and responsible gov-

Salem

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